

REMARKS

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 11-17, 23 and were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Sarraf. Claims 2, 3, 5, 9 and 10 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form to overcome the objections to the base claims. Claims 18-22 were allowed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowance.

Claims 1 and 17 have been canceled without prejudice. Allowable claims 2 and 9 have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 4 to 8 and 11 to 16 have been made dependent on claim 2. The limitations of allowable dependent claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 23. A new claim 25 has been added incorporating the limitations of claim 23 and allowable claim 9. New claim 26 depends from claim 25.

Withdrawal of the rejections and objections to the pending claims is respectfully requested, and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully requests such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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Re: Application of: BEIER et al.  
Serial No.: 09/879,609

### ADDENDUM SHOWING CHANGES

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION

[0026] In one preferred specific embodiment, light source 10 is disposed on a cooling element 112. Light source 10 is linked via a current-supply and control line 114 to control unit 116. Control unit 116 has individual components, which enable individual laser diodes of the array to be driven or regulated separately from one another. Cooling element 112 is linked via a line 118 for controlling cooling element 112 [118] to temperature control 120.

#### IN THE CLAIMS

2. (Amended) A device for imaging printing plates comprising:  
an array of  $n$  laser diodes which image  $n$  image points, so that one laser diode of the array is allocated to each  $i$ -th point, with  $i$  being from  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , the  $n$  image points being separated by a spatial interval  $l$  between adjacent image points, with a pitch distance  $p$  of dots to be imaged by the array,  
the laser diodes being individually-drivable single stripe laser diodes.  
 [The device as recited in claim 1] wherein the spatial interval  $l$  between adjacent image points, measured in units of the pitch distance  $p$  of the dots, is an integral multiple  $m$  of the pitch distance  $p$  between the dots.
4. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] wherein the spatial interval  $l$  of adjacent image points, measured in units of the pitch distance  $p$  of the dots, is smaller than the number  $n$  of the image points.
5. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] wherein the multiple  $m$  and the number  $n$  of the image points are prime numbers.
6. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] further comprising imaging optics for correcting at least one of divergence and aberration.
7. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] further comprising a control unit, at least one of the laser diodes of the array being controlled by the control unit.
8. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] wherein the number of laser diodes in the array is between 10 and 100.

9. (Amended) A device for imaging printing plates comprising:

an array of  $n$  laser diodes which image  $n$  image points, so that one laser diode of the array is allocated to each  $i$ -th point, with  $i$  being from  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , the  $n$  image points being separated by a spatial interval  $l$  between adjacent image points, with a pitch distance  $p$  of dots to be imaged by the array,

the laser diodes being individually-drivable single stripe laser diodes,

[The device as recited in claim 1] wherein the laser diodes are spaced apart on the array by a distance of between 100 and 1000 micrometers, and a width of emitter surfaces of the laser diodes is less than 10 micrometers.

11. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] further comprising at least one detector for testing for correct functioning and determining a power output of one or of a plurality of the laser diodes.

12. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] further comprising a laser controller, the laser controller being controlled as a function of the power output determined by the detector.

13. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] wherein at least one laser diode is a pulse controlled laser.

14. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] wherein a repetition rate of the light pulses is at least exactly as great as a pulse frequency of the pulse-controlled laser in order to displace the individual dots.

15. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] further comprising imaging optics including at least one reflective optical element.

16. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 2 [1] further including imaging optics having micro-optical components.

23. (Amended) A print unit comprising at least one device for imaging printing plates, the device including an array of  $n$  laser diodes which image  $n$  image points, so that one laser diode of the array is allocated to each  $i$ -th point, with  $i$  being from  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , the  $n$  image points being separated by a spatial interval  $l$  between adjacent image points, with a pitch distance  $p$  of dots to be imaged by the array, the laser diodes being individually-drivable single stripe laser diodes; the spatial interval  $l$  between adjacent image points, measured in units of the pitch distance  $p$  of the dots, being an integral multiple  $m$  of the pitch distance  $p$  between the dots.